

## From Adventure To Defeat

**I**N 1968, Presidential Candidate Richard Nixon promised American voters peace in Viet Nam. Two years later, as President, Nixon held out to the American public bright prospect for a military decision by means of "Vietnamization" of the war. On April 30, 1970, he still talked peace. Ten days later, the world learnt with stupor and indignation that American divisions, not content with occupying South Viet Nam, had invaded Cambodia. Then on May 4, Nixon announced violent air bombings of the DRVN. On May 4, his police opened fire at American students who demonstrated for peace.

We have been witnessing a real process of escalation.

In a few days, Richard Nixon has passed all bounds still kept by Lyndon Johnson even at the worst moments of his tenure of office. The war now is blazing all over Indochina, a war conducted in the American way. In the rubber plantations and villages of Cambodia, a BBC broadcast reported on May 4, American bombs and shells sought to destroy everything, and on the ground American soldiers were after even the cattle because, again according to the BBC, the US command maintained that houses and cattle in Cambodia could help the "Viet Cong."

In fact, this aggressiveness and barbarousness — barbarous is Senator McGovern's word — suits only unwearied people. For those who know Yankee imperialism, its world policy and the real meaning of the high faluting pronouncements that follow its acts of gangsterism, the invasion of Cambodia is no surprise at all. President Truman arrogated to himself the right to intervene brutally in Greece and Korea; President Eisenhower dispatched the 6th Fleet to land marines in the Lebanon; President Kennedy unleashed the "special war" in Viet Nam and landed marines in Thailand; President Johnson sent marines and GIs to Viet Nam and Santo Domingo. In less than a quarter of the century, US troops have invaded a series of countries, often thousands of miles from the US, and each time under the pretext that American security is threatened. The govern-

ments of Juan Bosch in Santo Domingo, of Sihanouk in Cambodia, of Lumumba in the Congo, of Arbenz in Guatemala, etc. all pose a fatal threat to poor America.

To defend this America menaced from all sides, it has been necessary to land more than half a million troops in Viet Nam; to protect these troops, it is necessary to bring war to Laos, then to Cambodia, and to destroy there, just as in Viet Nam, everything that lives and moves. To-morrow, still it will be necessary to go farther because, beyond doubt, the GIs who enter Cambodia will not be in safety either. Hitler spoke of "vital space," the US presidents invoke the security of their country. There is only one difference: Hitler's passions had not moved as far as US marines and Hellcats aircraft had wreaked less destruction than those of the USAF.

Richard Nixon believes he can outdo Hitler since he has at his disposal incomparably superior technical means. He also believes he is stronger because he thinks he can lay hand on Asia by pitting Asians against Asians. A whole pack of blood-thirsty generals — Thieu, Pak Jung Hi, Suharto and Kitiyakorn — freshly joined by Lon Nol who, to please his bosses, has not been slow to dip his hands in the blood of Cambodian patriots and Vietnamese nationalists residing in Cambodia, is already prepared to do quite dirty job, not excluding the dictator of Taiwan and the impudent imperialists of Japan.

May Richard Nixon ponder over this gospel truth: he that striketh with the sword shall be stricken with the sword. The people of Indochina have been struggling with arms in hands, for 30 years for their independence. Fifty million people of Viet Nam, Laos and Cambodia are resolved never to be enslaved again. They are determined to fight and know how to fight. Behind them are the whole socialist camp and all progressives in the world. To invade a new country and open a new front while the American forces have already sustained setback after setback in Viet Nam and Laos is an adventure that will turn out to be costly. At the end of this, what is in store for Nixon and the US can but be the most humiliating defeat.

## DIRECTIVES ON PRESIDENT HO CHI MINH'S 80th BIRTH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

**T**HE Secretariat of the Central Committee of the Viet Nam Workers' Party has just made known its directives on the commemoration of the 80th birth anniversary of President Ho Chi Minh (May 19, 1970).

From May to the end of June, a campaign of political activities will mark that anniversary. It is to give the cadres, Party members and people a better knowledge of the merits and work of the late President, to encourage our people to study and follow his example, to weld their union and strengthen their determination to fight and to surmount all difficulties, to carry through all tasks, to be industrious, thrifty, honest and righteous, to devote heart and soul to the common cause and to show disinterestedness, modesty and simplicity. All the Party, people and army are called on to march valiantly forward, successfully implement President Ho Chi Minh's last instructions and the "five oaths" taken at the ceremony held on September 9, 1969 in his memory, fulfil thoroughly the obligations towards the South and give a strong fillip to the economic and cultural development in the North.

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The 4th AA Company at Ham Rong, worthy heir to its Dien Bien Phu elders

**USAF  
DULY PUNISHED IN  
NORTH VIET NAM  
13 Jets Downed  
in 4 Days of  
Re-escalation**



# AN EXTREMELY SERIOUS ACT OF WAR

In four consecutive days, from May 1 to 4, hundreds of US aircraft including B-52s flew devastating raids on populated areas in the districts of Quang Ninh, Le Tay, Tuyen Hoa, Minh Hoa (Quang Binh province) and Ky Son, Dien Chien, Nghia Dan (Ngha An province). Some of the localities under attack are situated North of the 19th parallel, that is, in the zone "spared" by LB Johnson during the period of "limited bombing" of North Viet Nam.

Profusely using explosive, steel-pellet, time-bombs, rockets, the US aircraft inflicted heavy losses in human life and property on the local population: 30 children and many women were killed.

Ever since the unconditional cessation of bombings, US aircraft have not ceased violating the sovereignty and endangering the security of the DRVN, but never have their attacks taken such proportions. The Pentagon said they were only cases of "protective reaction," but Western agencies revealed that they were decided by none other than Nixon himself. They were in fact part and parcel of an overall plan of the United States to step up and spread the war like the recent US armed aggression in Cambodia. They were closely linked with Nixon's threats to resort to "strong measures" and Melvin Laird's statements aimed at preparing public opinion for an eventual

"resuming of North Viet Nam bombing."

The new war escalation against the DRVN stirred such a strong opposition in the United States and the world at large that on May 5 the Nixon administration had to declare that it now stopped the series of power-had air raids against North Viet Nam, adding, however, that these might be resumed in case of necessity.

Such an utterance only bared the perfidy and obstinacy of the Washington rulers. In describing the USAF May 1-4 strikes as "powerful air raids against North Viet Nam," the Nixon administration gave the lie to its own previous statement that such actions were only cases of routine "protective reaction." But in reserving to itself the right to resume these attacks against an independent and sovereign country, a member of the socialist camp, it provided ample proof of its cynicism and bellicism.

The four-party Conference in Paris could be opened only as a result of US unconditional cessation of bombing against the DRVN. Nobody will now be deceived by Nixon's repeated assertions that he was for a negotiated settlement of the Viet Nam problem.

As far as the Vietnamese people are concerned, they are always highly vigilant and ready to deal deserving blows at the US aggressor in North as well as in South Viet Nam.

## FROM INTENTIONS...

ARE some of the reasons explaining French defeat at Dien Bien Phu applicable to the present situation in Viet Nam? Let us recall them in a few words.

In Summer 1953, to ward off an inevitable defeat of the French Expeditionary Corps, the US granted France a supplementary loan of 35 million dollars in addition to the 400 million dollars already appropriated for that year, the major part going to troop equipment. Navarre, new Commander-in-Chief of the French Expeditionary

## ...TO REALITIES

THE French and puppet troops, however, had to fight in an over-stretched theatre of operation, in all the 3 Indochinese countries, while people's war, to varying degrees, was gaining momentum everywhere. They came up against a fundamental contradiction: either to concentrate themselves to break the ever stronger Vietnamese regular unit or to this out to occupy territory and "pacify" the country. The contradiction was all the more difficult to solve as they had to deal with a resolute and battle-hardened adversary who was every where and

Hon and Phongs Saly which, with Sam Neua province liberated in 1953, had since then taken the Lao Resistance bases in the Northwest to Viet Nam.

In co-ordinating the operations in Laos with other operations in Central and South Viet Nam, the Vietnamese Command had landed the adversary in a totally passive position. Against an adversary already spread this on all fronts it concerned the French Command and its means of war to win the decisive battle of the war in the very area the French strategists thought it could not conduct operations somewhat less important for a relatively long period. Thus,

# SIXTEEN YEARS AFTER DIEN BIEN PHU

Corps, then envisaged a substantial strengthening of the puppet army, the creation of a powerful strategic mobile force (thanks to the regroupment of the occupation troops and the new contributions from home). He focused attention on the Bac Bo Delta (North Viet Nam) which he regarded as a key position.

In other words, the business of the French Command which had powerful means at its disposal was to muster its troops in strategic areas and gradually make the locally recruited mercenary army the bulk of its fighting force. The colonialists estimated that the successes they could obtain would force the DRVN to negotiate in unfavourable conditions in this country would see its regular units cut to pieces. State Secretary Foster Dulles, total supporter of the Navarre Plan, presented it to US Congress as apt to "break the organized body of communist aggression by the end of the 1953 fighting season."

In the last months of 1953, Navarre succeeded in building a mobile force of 84 battalions on all the Indochina front, 44 of them in the Bac Bo Delta alone, a puppet army of 300,000 men, not including those who served with the Expeditionary Corps, or an increase of 90,000, a record figure since the outbreak of the war. This large army was better equipped than before and dotted with stronger air power.

nowhere. Day and night, the guerrillas harassed the enemy troops. With their support and the assistance of the population, the regional troops, better armed and better trained, found themselves in good conditions to decimate the enemy or make short work of his garrisons. As for our regular army, it enjoyed complete freedom of action without bothering about occupying any place or moving into any given area. As a general rule, the people's armed forces went into battle only when they were sure to win and only hit their adversary where he was exposed. Such a tactic of the people's forces rendered the above-mentioned contradiction much more difficult for the colonialists to solve, especially with the widening of the theatre of operation.

In November 1953, while the French mistreated a force in the Red River Delta, units of the VNPA swung into action in the Northern mountain area. Furthermore, Vietnamese volunteers were prepared to provide aid to the Pathet Lao in areas of Upper Laos. Navarre was forced to drop troops on Dien Bien Phu and to fly to the rescue of sectors under pressure in Laos with reinforcements from the Delta and other fronts.

This failed to prevent the Pathet Lao and Vietnamese volunteers from liberating Thakhek and other important points in the lower Laos in Upper Laos, they dislodged the enemy from war.

one of the most important actors leading to the French defeat was the necessity to deploy troops into 3 countries and to fly to the rescue of every menaced sector in these countries. Meanwhile, for the Vietnamese, the co-ordination of the operations with the resistance of brotherly peoples of Laos and Cambodia gave it much more room to manoeuvre than when the theatre of war covered a single country. The widening of the war could but aggravate the critical situation of the French troops.

## FORGOTTEN LESSONS

NOWADAYS, the US has at its disposal a combat force two and a half times larger and much better equipped than France. There is no denying the fact that with such an army it has already sustained more crushing and more resounding defeats than France did in 1953. Beaten in South Viet Nam, it has extended the war to Laos and is seeking to bring it to Cambodia.

In fighting a bigger war, the Americans are operating in this year 1970 in worse conditions than the French in 1953.

In Viet Nam, have they not been compelled to pull their troops out, in one way or another? Walter Lippmann has remarked, not without irony, that for the first time in the history of wars, a country pretends

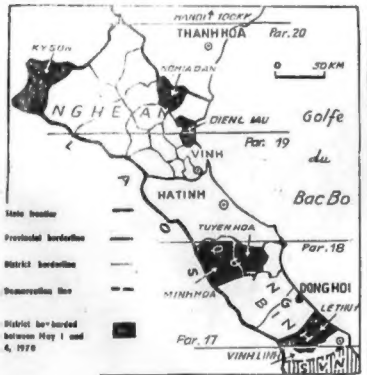
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## Paris Conference on Viet Nam

# May 6 Session Cancelled

THE 66th session of the Paris Conference on Viet Nam, scheduled for May 6, did not take place. The DRVN Government delegation at this Conference announced in a statement its decision not to take part in that session in protest against the extremely serious war acts committed against the DRVN

by the US in these last four days. (At the 65th session held on April 30, Mr Nguyen Minh Vy, representative of the DRVN, had already warned the Nixon administration of the consequences which could result from the acts of US war intensification in Indochina).



## 16th ANNIVERSARY OF DIEN BIEN PHU

# THE PEOPLE'S ARMY AFTER DIEN BIEN PHU

THE Viet Nam People's Army put up in the first months of 1970 in Hanoi a big exhibition, a reportage which is given below on the occasion of the 16th anniversary of Dien Bien Phu. The recent "re-escalation" by the USAF in North Viet Nam seems to give it a more present interest.



Sculptural group welcoming visitors in the central yard of the exhibition, a collective work of military artists

## THE FIRST RIFLES IN THE WORLD TO DOWN "JET" PLANES

AT the "AA defence" stand, the visitor is welcomed by "veterans" of the first resistance: 1916 vintage muskets, a "Tommy gun" and even an old "Lebel" of the last century which grounded a French plane in the 1945-1954 Indochina war. Other exhibits testify to our first victory over the US air raid on August 5, 1964 (the first stage of US escalation).

Here, the debris of an A-1H Skyraider downed at Lach Truong (Thanh Hoa province) the first day of the "escalation" still bear the traces of rifle and heavy machine gun bullets. There, on an arm-rack are rifles with which the militia women of Dien Hiep village, Nghe An province, grounded a French plane on March 15, 1965. It was the first plane hit by the militia and perhaps the first jet plane in the world knocked out of the sky by rifles. The people's militia and regional troops tied with one another in downing jets with light weapons. The record has been held by Quang Binh province but Thanh Hoa achieved two remarkable exploits: on October 24, 1967 a unit of militia veterans of Hiep Truong village, composed exclusively of teenagers, bagged a lighter-bomber of the US Navy and the unit of militia girls of Hiep Loc village had to its credit two jets downed. In Lang Son province, with a salvo of eleven rifle shots, the Nung country-women pruned a jet plane on March 8, 1966.

Part of the stand shows how the militia population and people's militia fought at the side of regular units equipped with modern weapons. In the photos, one can see rural militiamen helping gunners move launching pads and missiles and build embankment to protect the batteries, etc. One can contemplate at leisure the picture of eight young girls of Hiep Loc village, Nam Ha province, who learned how to handle an anti-air artillery unit and, as all the gunners were killed, they took over the battery and a few minutes later knocked down a predatory plane.

Other photos show young volunteers on various combat missions: feeding AA guns, serving ammunition, connecting telephone wires, etc. which are vivid images of the people's war, the co-operation between the regular army, regional militia and people's militia, without which even an army bigger than ours could not efficiently face an air force reputedly the world's most powerful.

## THE BRIDGE THAT CHALLENGED McNAMARA

THE lay-out representing the defence of the Ham Rong bridge linking North and South of the country at the 20th parallel takes pride of place in the stand reserved for Thanh Hoa province.

This famous bridge about 100m long stoically held out for one thousand days and nights; in fact, in about 5,000 sorties, the US planes released 71,000 bombs and rockets, some of which hit its platform and trusses, but the traffic was never interrupted more than 24 hours. This feat was achieved at the price of a stubborn resistance put up jointly by the VNPA and civilians: AA batteries, missile launching pads, raia stations, people's armed police, militia, pontooners, workers of the thermo-electric station near by, rural militia of Nam Ngan and Yen Vic villages located at both ends of the bridge, together with the river patrol of the people's Navy and fighter planes.

This perfect co-ordination wore a real net protecting the bridge which all the tactics allegedly devised by the Americans were unable to destroy. Stung to the quick, on July 18, 1969, in an inspection tour of South Viet Nam, McNamara went

The power station built at some hundred metres from the bridge received 300 bombs and rockets, yet there was no power failure. Not a plot of ricefield of the two co-operatives near the bridge was not riddled with American bombs and shells, yet rice plants kept growing lushly.



In that titanic contest at Ham Rong, five units, one 21 years' old militia girl, and the manager of the electric station were promoted heroes by the National Assembly. There can be seen combatants' sponsoring mothers mending the gunners' clothes; the aluminum cup of the late little Nguyen Thi Hoan who brought tea to the fighters during the air raids on May 21, 22 and 23, 1966; the skull used by a boatman who captured Lieutenant Commander Delion fallen into the river; portrait of the female hero Lam Thi Xuan who helped move AA guns and feed them, thus embodying our Party's military line: "Everyone is a fighter."

## MILITIA GIRLS vs THE SEVENTH FLEET

ON an arm-rack, one sees not a "conventional" weapon, but a shoulder pole used to carry two loads dangling from its tush ends. In the hands of a 15-year-old boy, it contributed to the capture of an American pilot twice his size.

The stand of the 4th militia zone is conspicuously the exploits achieved by Quang Binh province. Here is a machine-gun with which farmer Tran Quoc Hieu downed a Skyraider at night, the photos of the young girl Nguyen Thi Xuan who, on Dec. 6, 1967 grounded a Ph-109 with a machine-gun and of eight militia girls at Vu Ninh who on Feb. 16, 1967 brought down an unmanned chopper.

Each village in Quang Binh province was a fortress, an AA battery. The American aggressors lost 104 aircraft to the workers and farmers in that province, besides 3 planes were brought down by each militia unit of two villages, 2 by two other villages and 1 by seven other militia units.

Quang Binh was also one of the choice targets of the Seventh Fleet. Like other coastal provinces, it built a coastal defence manned only by the militia and women fighting together with the regular artillerymen. Travel by army

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## THE PEOPLE'S ARMY...

(Continued from page 3)

units stationed in the area, they possessed a modern equipment and were quick in getting acquainted with trigonometry, meteorology, cartography, telemetry. There have been hundreds of such skilled gunners capable of striking at enemy targets with big ordnance pieces. The young artillery girls at Ngu Thuy set fire three times to the ships of the 7th Fleet.



Enemy aircraft hit hard at communication lines and transport. It is impossible to find in Ha Tinh province any over 10-metre long bridge undamaged. The Do Tri bridge, of 40 metres in length, was bombed 130 times and if the bombs dropped on it are lined up, they are sixty times longer than the bridge itself.

Nevertheless, as admitted by the American authorities all Washington's efforts were to no avail.

A clay model shows how the traffic on Do Len river was re-established: the bridge used for trains and vehicles could be quickly repaired by trusses scattered nearby. In this area, all means of communication were kept ready for use: many ferry boats, a dozen floating bridges for lorries and motor-cars, others for pedestrians and cyclists. There were colfer-bridges, and pontoon-bridges and also "unsinkable" bridges made of bundles of big bamboo pipes whose compartmented inside made them more or less immune to the effects of US bombs and shells.

South of Ham Rong, the crossing of Highway No 1 on the Ghep river was done by a ferry. In the hectic days of the war, the traffic was kept going even in the rainy season by many pontoon-bridges.

A great homage is paid to the sappers' units which in war time kept in good order 5,441 kilometres of existing roads and built 3,300 kilometres of new ones. Hundreds of nights on end.

## "GUARDIAN STARS" OF LORRY DRIVERS

At the Communication stand one can see the photo of a country girl running toward an AA battery with two boxes of shells twice her own weight, a "bicycle cart" especially made to transport goods on narrow paths and on which Nguyen Duc Ngo could carry a live weight of 750 kilograms, the double of the record set during the Dien Bien Phu campaign, lorries having covered tens of thousands of kilometres on the worst roads without repairs and drivers driving trucks without head lights on for hundreds of nights on end.



Artillery girls of Ngu Thuy people's militia unit

of kilometres of railway tracks were also built together with an extensive network of foot-paths, motor-roads and waterways, which foiled the scheme of the American strategists.

The enemy made a wide use of time-bombs which were more and more dangerous as they were gradually improved. Twenty two per cent of these bombs (about 40,000) were primed by army sappers, while the remaining was neutralized by the people's sappers trained in all villages by armymen for some weeks to see to the security of communications.

During the raids, from their watch-towers, signalmen gave the exact number and location of unexploded bombs which were marked by visible banners planted on the points of impact. Teams of workers unearthed or uncapped these lethal weapons while others built side-tracks for vehicles to bypass the danger spots.

As traffic was intense chiefly at night, these banners were kept constantly lighted by courageous volunteers.

These "fire-flies" or "guardian stars" of the lorry-drivers with eyes bloodshot from sleeplessness greatly contributed to the strategic failure of the Americans.

## "WE'RE NOT TWIDDLING OUR THUMBS HERE!"

DONG LOC cross-roads, in Ha Tinh province, is represented by a big map in relief. It received, in the eight months between Johnson's decision to limit the bombardments and that to stop them for good in the DRVN, 42,000 bombs released in 2,000 air sorties. The scenery, completely pock-marked by bomb craters, looks like a lunar landscape. No trees, not a living soul. On this lacerated land, a brigade of voluntary youths lived, fought and worked to maintain traffic open at any cost. Militiamen and peasants kept turns in mending the road, which consequently was never cut off during 140 days of infernal raids (8 bombings per 24 hours).

With emotion the visitor can see the picks, pickaxes and shovels belonging to the ten young girls of Group 4 killed by a time-bomb while working on a road section full of these lethal weapons.

In the same infernal area, La Thi Tam, another young girl, was cited a heroine. She is seen in the photo on her watch-tower with her field glasses counting unexploded bombs. During one hundred days at Dong Loc, she platted signal flags on 301 holes in each of which lay a time-bomb rendered more and more dangerous as its explosion time was nearing. Sometimes, Tam stood by an unexploded bomb for hours to warn whole columns of trucks to move on rapidly.

In that "bomb-pocket" the road was divided into sections, the maintenance of each of which was assigned to an agricultural co-operative in the vicinity. There was in a glass-case a letter signed by 103 families members of the Tim Loc co-operative suggesting that a cross-road be opened even though it would pass through their hamlet, houses or gardens.

In other co-operatives, the farmers drew up the lists of materials they were ready to put at the disposal of the authorities to mend roads. At Hai Trai village they demolished their houses to have enough bricks to build a submerged foot-path across a river, thus making it difficult for enemy planes to spot. Such sacrifices were possible thanks to the rational organization of work and the spirit of mutual assistance which prevail over the co-op members' personal interests.

Other exhibits also come from Dong Loc: a wooden crutch on which war invalid Nguyen Hoang would come every night to the construction site to help roadmen with his advice or encouragement, the fine hand-writing of Vo Thi An, a teen-ager in the "Ten of Group 4," who wrote to her mother shortly before her death as follows: "We are not twiddling our thumbs here, mother! At night the light of flames dropped by the Yankees facilitates our work. In the day time, their bombs kill fish for us to get more protein. The enemy bombs and shells can shake our woods and forests but not our determination."

## MOBILE AA SHELTER AND THE CHILD BORN IN THE WOMB OF THE EARTH

METAL cases of the shells which set fire to the US 60,000 ton cruiser *New Jersey* on Oct. 26, 1968, the photo of a launching pad of a missile which destroyed the first B-52, the box of artificial smoke with which Vy "kindled" a fire on Nov. 11, 1966 to draw upon himself 300 bombs, thus enabling our AA batteries to down six fighter-bombers, the clay model of a famous artillery emplacement which on March 20, 1967 silenced the enemy guns shelling North Viet Nam across the 17th parallel, all this bears testimony to the activities of Vinh Linh, the area the most exposed to US attacks and even within the range of carbines of enemy forces operating in the "demilitarized zone."

Vinh Linh is also known for the manner in which its inhabitants organized their life and work under the bombing.

The lay-out of a group of underground dwellings gives us an idea of that struggle. Beginning with a trench deeper than a man's size, a gallery leads us, after getting down

about 30 steps, to a large tunnel provided with air-shafts and light and cells serving as "living rooms" for a 3 or 4-member family and roomier crypts where a young girl sells her wares, a baby-sitter nurses her little ones, a schoolmistress teaches her pupils, a nurse tends her patients, a theatrical group gives a performance. In a photo we see a midwife bathing a newly-born baby eight metres deep in the earth.



Vinh Linh was also prepared to face an eventual landing of enemy troops: the mole-hills linked to one another for kilometres would become a maze of starting points to launch unexpected attacks against the occupiers and enable us to hold out as long as necessary to repel the enemy.

The plain of Vinh Linh is a green carpet despite the many craters dug by enemy bombs and shells which, according to their sizes, can now be used as water tanks, or to rear fish and ducks or grow azolla (a kind of green manure).

Other trenches make it possible to the farmers to go to the fields without running the risk of being hit by shrapnel of bombs, shells and CHUs or detected by spotter planes. Besides his gun everyone has his mobile shelter made of bamboo

frame and covered with plaited straw.

With their long experience with the enemy, the Vinh Linh inhabitants have put into practice the slogan: "To cling to the ground at any cost." Not only are they not content with surviving on that land churned up by American bombs and shells, but they build underground villages where classes are run for children who cannot be evacuated and stages built for theatrical performances.

About thirty kilometres off Vinh coast, near the 17th parallel, Con Co, an islet barely some square kilometres large, became a true "bomb pocket." It was not a selective target. In fact, on its return flights from the mainland, each American plane used to jettison its unused bombs and rockets on it, thus enabling our combatants there to bag about fifty jets in three years. They had sent to this exhibition flutes and banjos made from wreckage of planes. A small industry had sprung up during the US escalation: in Vinh Linh, the inhabitants manufactured a kind of black tea for local consumption and made racks and ploughshares with debris of rockets and planes.

From Ha Tay province, whose main concern is farming, the inhabitants had sent to the exhibition specimens of agricultural machines turned out during the US escalation; Nam Ha province can now produce cement.

We learn from the statistics available at the show that from

1965 to 1968 in the plains on the right bank of the Red River the number of agricultural co-operatives which yield 5 tons of paddy per hectare upwards increased by 30 per cent, the local industrial production rose by 120 per cent, the number of hospitals went from 27 to 91 and that of school-children from 883,000 to 1,360,000. Destroyed since the beginning of US bombardments, the Nam Dinh textile factory, thanks to a rational organization of work, succeeded in turning out an additional to million metres of textiles as a gift to our Southern fellow-countrymen despite the fact that its various workshops were dispersed in the surrounding countryside.

North Viet Nam has not been "bombed back to the stone age" as clamoured for by an American brashat, Curtis Le May; on the contrary she is gradually marching forward to socialism.



## UNCONCEIVABLE STRENGTH

The visitor can see in the stand reserved for Nghe An province the remnants of a convict hat

## SIXTEEN YEARS AFTER...

(Continued from page 2)

defeating another by reducing its military presence there. "Whereas the French controlled the cities in a relatively sure fashion, today the war is being fought there with all its intensity: there is no more sanctuary for the occupier. Practically the GIs have been forced to battle any place, any time and any way the Liberation forces want them to. Furthermore, the South Vietnamese revolutionary forces today can rely on a vast rear base, socialist North Viet Nam, and receive the most effective international aid. It is not in the full flush of victory but in a losing posture in Viet Nam that the Americans have intensified the war in Laos. There, all the weight of the USA and the presence of thousands of US advisers and battalions of Thai troops sent in on order from Washington have not prevented

Vang Pao's units from fleeing in disorder from the Plain of Jars which bears a strategic significance.

Beaten in Viet Nam and Laos, the Americans again resort to a forward run-away.

They have invaded Cambodia, but in the political field, Lon Nol, Matak and their ilk more and more lose control of the situation. In the military field, the widening of the theatres of operations can but disavow a US puppet army already in difficulty in South Viet Nam.

Nixon has thought having found a remedy by making Vietnamese fight Vietnamese, Indochinese fight Indochinese and Asians fight Asians. The French colonialists in Indochina had got this experience and a veteran, the colonel of the Dien Bien Phu garrison, after this insuccess had made this bitter recommendation: "Let

us cease making strangers to our race fight for causes which are proper to us. Of course, all our colonial wars had been fought and well fought by the indigenous troops, but this epoch where our policy succeeded in persuading these indigenes that they were fighting for their own interest was over."

Recalling the lessons forgotten by the successive governments of his country, an American author has written: "If there is any analogy, useful to us in the 1960's, it is something closer to us in time and space: the experience of the French in Viet Nam from 1946 to 1954."

\* Bernard Fall: *The Two Vietnams*, p.122.  
\*\* *New York Times*, Dec. 1, 1969  
\*\*\* Pierre Langlais: *Dien Bien Phu*, p.241.  
\*\*\*\* Theodore Draper: *The Abuse of Power*, p.126.



Military Situation in Indo-China before Dien Bien Phu

Legend: a) Free areas in Viet Nam.  
b) Direction of attack of Vietnamese troops and Pathet Lao army units.





CAMBODIA'S NATIONAL  
ROYAL GOVERNMENT SET UP"PROCHEACHON" SUPPORTS  
SAMDECH NORODOM SIHANOUK

**S**AMDECH Norodom Sihanouk, Head of State of Cambodia and President of the National United Front of Kampuchea, held a press conference in Peking, at which he made public the Political Programme of the National United Front of Kampuchea (see analysis in our next issue) and the list of the members of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the National United Front of Kampuchea. He also announced the establishment of the Royal Government of National Union under the leadership of the National United Front of Kampuchea and made known the Proclamation of the Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia and the member list of that Government.

Following is the list of members of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the National United Front of Kampuchea:

Mr. Penn Nouth	Chairman
Mr. Chau Seng	member
General Thong San O	member
Mr. Chan Youtan	member
Mr. Chha San	member
Mr. Hou Yuen	member
Mr. Hu Niam	member
Mr. Huot Samlath	member
Mr. Khieu Samphan	member
Mr. Sarin Chhak	member
Mr. Thounm Mumm	member

The Royal Government of National Union under the leadership of the National United Front of Kampuchea is composed of the following personalities:

Prime Minister: Mr. Penn Nouth  
Minister of Foreign Affairs: Mr. Sarin Chhak

Minister charged with special mission: Mr. Chau Seng

Minister of Popular Education and Youth: Mr. Chan Youtan

Minister of Public Health, Religious and Social Affairs: Dr. Ngu Hu

Minister of Economy and Finance: Mr. Thounm Mumm

Minister of National Defence: Mr. Khieu Samphan

Minister of Military Equipment and Armament: Major General Thong San O

Minister of Information and Propaganda: Mr. Hu Niam

Minister of Public Works, Telecommunications and Reconstruction: Mr. Huot Samlath

Minister of Interior, Communal Reforms and Cooperatives: Mr. Hou Yuen

Minister of Justice and Judicial Reforms: Mr. Chha San

aforsaid message of the Head of State, the essential mission of the new government is to faithfully and actively execute the Political Programme of the FUNK.

1. Unite all our people to frustrate all the maneuvers, and aggression by the American imperialists against its capacity as the sole legal and legitimate government of the Khmer nation from which the racist and racist reactionary regime of Phnom Penh is excluded.

2. After complete victory, build an independent, peaceful, neutral, democratic and prosperous Cambodia.

On this occasion, the new Government of National Union under the leadership of the FUNK reaffirms solemnly its capacity as the sole legal and legitimate government of the Khmer nation from which the racist and racist reactionary regime of Phnom Penh is excluded.

On this score, it proclaims solemnly:

1. The condemnation by the Khmer people of the traitorous Lon Nol-Sirik Matak clique which has sabotaged and destroyed the independence, peace and neutrality of Cambodia for the benefit of American imperialism.

2. The condemnation by the Khmer people of the American imperialists who have used the Khmer people of Saigon, have extensively

(Continued page 11)

## Samdech Norodom Sihanouk Denounces...

stop without delay their armed intervention against Cambodia. According to the latest news from US press dispatches, the United States has, in order only to occupy a part of the Sway Ring province, called "Parrot's Head," committed to Cambodia several thousand Yankee soldiers and 65,000 South Vietnamese mercenaries.

Not satisfied with this sinister open intervention with the sole purpose of crushing ruthlessly the national liberation movement of the Khmer people, certain military circles of Washington even have the cheek to suggest that the USA should not let, at any cost, the army of the National United Front of Kampuchea, which they wrongly label "Viet Cong," to take hold of Phnom Penh.

In my capacity as the leader of the Khmer people, I call on the world's peoples, including the American people, to show their solidarity by denouncing this new and monstrous crime of US imperialism, which wants to deny desperately by armed force the people the right to fight for national independence, peace, neutrality, democracy and their own freedom; by severely and unconditionally condemning this armed intervention of the United States against Cambodia; by demanding that their governments sever diplomatic and other relations with the Lon Nol traitorous and blood-thirsty regime, which has paved the way for the afore-said US intervention; by urging their respective governments to provide aid in one way or another to the Khmer people struggling against the traitors and foreign invaders; by taking diplomatic and political actions to prevent the United States and its satellites and allies aid in one way or another to the anti-popular Lon Nol-Sirik Matak regime at bay, and

THE Committee of the "Procheachon" (People's Group) of Cambodia issued on April 23 a statement asserting that the exchange policy of the group is to rally the entire Khmer people against the US imperialists and their henchmen in Cambodia, and voicing its support for the Proclamation of Samdech Head of State Norodom Sihanouk on March 23.

The statement said: "Since its foundation (1953) our 'Procheachon' has consistently kept to its political stand, that of uniting the entire people composed of the workers, peasants, petty bourgeois intellectuals, members of the Buddhist clergy, national minorities, patriotic capitalists and patriotic military as well as civil servants, patriotic personalities, patriotic members of the Royal Family, and political parties and mass organizations regardless of political tendencies, in order to wage a struggle against the US imperialists and their henchmen to defend peace, independence, neutrality, sovereignty and territorial integrity, and for democratic liberties and better living conditions of the people. "Over the past fifteen years our 'Procheachon', through thick and thin, with the support of

the entire people, has carried out most consistently and actively the above-defined political line. Our group has continually exposed and actively opposed the schemes of the US imperialists and their henchmen headed by Lon Nol who, combining attacks from outside with coup attempts from inside, plotted to destroy the peaceful, independent and neutral Cambodia and make of it a new colony of the US.

"This plot now has become a reality. "In face of the present grave danger, we reaffirm that only by uniting the entire people and using all forms of struggle to foil the scheme of the US imperialists and overthrow the traitorous clique, henchmen of the US, headed by Lon Nol, and set up a patriotic, peaceful and truly neutral government which will defend democratic liberties and improve the living conditions of the people, is it possible to achieve a truly independent, peaceful, neutral and prosperous Cambodia.

"In that spirit the 'Procheachon' declares its approval of, and support for, the March 23 Proclamation of Samdech Head of State Norodom Sihanouk."

"But the people who are victims of US neo-colonial imperialism do not and will not accept the offer ever a prey to Nixon and his like. "So far as the Khmer people in particular and the Indochinese peoples in general are concerned, there is no question, and will never be any question, of bowing to or being brought to their knees before the US imperialist aggressor and murderer.

Shrugging off Nixon's allegation that "the Khmer, Lao and Vietnamese people could be a menace to the lives of the American youth or the security of the United States half the globe away from Indochina," Samdech N. Sihanouk said, "Cambodia, Laos and Viet Nam have never for a moment, that is to say neither before nor after the signing of the 1954 Agreements on Indochina, threatened or provoked the United States.

"It is the United States alone which has deliberately violated these agreements and which, like a vulture, falling on a defenceless prey, has decided brutally to attack our three countries and peoples. "This fact is known to the whole world. Only the governments subservient to the United States pretend not to be aware of it.

"The lives of Mr. Nixon's soldiers will no longer be in danger as soon as he decides (and the American people have given him full powers to do so) to abide by the 1954 Geneva Agreements and consequently, withdraws all the US and allied forces from Indochina and lets the Indochinese peoples themselves solve the problems of their respective countries."

"I request all the peoples and governments of the world to make this plain to the countries and peoples susceptible to be their prey in the world.

All States Which Have Peace and Liberty  
of the Peoples at Heart Are Called Upon  
To Show Their Will To Contribute to the  
Riposte Against the Aggressor  
(Soviet Government's Statement)

The Government of the Soviet Union on May 4 issued the following statement:

In face of a grave deterioration of the situation in Southeast Asia caused by the aggressive acts of the US of America against Cambodia, the Soviet Government deems it necessary to make the following declaration:

On orders from the President of the United States, Richard Nixon, US armed forces are advancing deep into neutral Cambodia on the night of April 30 to May 1. This was announced in an address made by the President of the United States over the radio and television. According to press agencies, the American armed forces, including armoured and air forces, are advancing deep into Cambodian territory, bringing death to the population of Cambodia. The American command also has ordered important forces of the puppet regime of South Viet Nam to participate in those aggressive operations.

A new hotbed of war has appeared on the territory of Southeast Asia. In addition to Viet Nam and Laos, the war has been extended to Cambodia.

While involving another State of the Indochinese peninsula in the war, the President of the United States levelled in his address a threat at all the States which would decide to give their support to the victims of the American aggression. Moreover, the United States has, in the past few days, conducted massive air raids against certain areas of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam. Thus, it has grossly violated the commitment that it had taken and that constituted the basis of the four-party talks in Paris.

It is clear that the American administration is following an aggressive tendency in its policy, thinking that the only course for a big power in dealing with international affairs is to have recourse to force.

In Washington it is presumed that the United States will use force where it considers necessary to overthrow the governments unacceptable to it and to establish its dictatorship. Such a tendency which has been followed in the past has brought about the ruinous only failure to the American policy. That is a well-known fact which is being exemplified by the war against the Vietnamese people.

Having provoked a war in Cambodia and having resumed large-scale air raids against populated areas of the DRVN, President Nixon has resumed the decision taken by his predecessor, President Johnson, regarding the cessation, as early as November 1966, of all air bombardment and other acts involving the use of force against the DRVN.

The above-mentioned statement of the President of the United

700 Million Chinese Will Readily  
Give All-Out Support and Assistance  
to Indochinese Peoples  
(Chinese Government's  
Statement)

The Government of the People's Republic of China issued on May 4 the following statement:

On April 30, 1970, US President Nixon, tearing off all masks of "peace," brazenly announced

the committing of US troops and South Viet Nam mercenaries to a massive invasion of Cambodia and a barbarous war of aggression against the Cambodian people. At the same time, on May 1 and 2, US imperialism resumed bombing of Quang Binh and Nghe An provinces of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam. This is an extremely grave step taken by US imperialism to further expand its war of aggression in Indochina.

This fully proves that the reactionary coup d'etat staged on March 18 by the Lon Nol-Sirik Matak rightist clique with the aim of illegally overthrowing Cambodian Head of State Samdech Norodom Sihanouk was entirely plotted and engineered by the Nixon Government.

On May 2, Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, Head of State of Cambodia and President of the National United Front of Kampuchea, issued a solemn and just statement sternly condemning US imperialism for its odious crime of aggression against Cambodia and solemnly calling on the valiant Cambodian people to unite closely with the fraternal Vietnamese and Lao peoples and strengthen to the maximum their common struggle against the US aggressors in accordance with the resolutions of the Summit Conference of the Indochinese Peoples.

The Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam and the Central Committee of the Lao Patriotic Front

made public on May 2 and 3 strong statements, condemning US imperialism for its new crimes of aggression and war.

The Chinese Government and people express their most resolute support to the statement of Cambodian Head of State Samdech Norodom Sihanouk and to the statements of the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam and the Central Committee of the Lao Patriotic Front.

The Chinese Government solemnly declares:

US imperialist aggression against Cambodia and expansion of its war of aggression in Indochina are not only frantic provocations against the three Indochinese peoples, but also frantic provocations against the Chinese people, the South-East Asian peoples and the revolutionary peoples of the whole world. Implementing their great leader (Chairman Mao Tse-tung's teachings, the 700 million Chinese people pledge a powerful backing for the three Indochinese peoples and all-out support and assistance to the fraternal peoples of Cambodia, Laos and Viet Nam in carrying to the end until complete victory the war against US aggression and for national salvation.

Chairman Mao has long pointed out: "The US imperialists and reactionaries of all countries are paper tigers." The three Indochinese peoples, uniting together, daring to fight, persevering in protracted war, defying difficulties and advancing wave upon wave, will certainly defeat the US aggressors and all their running dogs.

Victory surely belongs to the three heroic Indochinese peoples!

(Continued page 10)



## KOSYGIN HOLDS PRESS CONFERENCE ON INDOCHINA

A. N. KOSYGIN, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Soviet Union, held on May 4 a press conference in which he read the statement of the Soviet Government on US expansion of its war of aggression in Indochina. He then answered many questions of the press.

Referring to the statement of the White House to the effect that the Soviet Union must weigh all the complexity of the relations with the United States in view of the US intrusion in Cambodia, Chairman Kosygin said that the spokesmen of the White House had somewhat sought to intimidate us. But, he stressed, this statement should be addressed to Mr. Nixon. It is Nixon who must weigh his hands before committing aggression, neglecting his troops and killing civilians.

Refuting Nixon's allegations that the US acts in Cambodia are necessary to continue and accelerate the withdrawal of US troops from South Viet Nam, Chairman Kosygin said that with such a logic, one could interfere in any country in the world.

To a question concerning the re-activation of the International Commission in Cambodia, Kosygin said, "Now is the time for actions to solve the problem, to deal with US aggression, to withdraw US troops from Cambodia and Viet Nam."

With regard to the holding of a Geneva Conference in the context of the current situation in Cambodia,

Chairman Kosygin said that the decisive voice belonged to Cambodia, Viet Nam and Laos. Now that aggressive operations have taken place, they must be stopped. Now is not the time for conferences. It is a time for action.

Chairman Kosygin mentioned reports of US troops in Cambodia applying the tactics of burning all, raising all towns and villages, killing women and children.

Chairman Kosygin rejected the convening of a South-East Asian Conference at the proposal of Adam Malik, Foreign Minister of Indonesia, with the participation of US allies in the aggression. He pointed out that the conference would bring the allies of an aggression could not bring about a peaceful settlement.

Replying to a question by Viet Nam News Agency, Chairman Kosygin said: "The recent conference of the representatives of the Vietnamese, Lao and Cambodian peoples has provided a factor which will make it possible to co-ordinate efforts of the three Indochinese peoples in the resistance against US aggression."

Referring to the Paris Conference on Viet Nam, Chairman Kosygin denounced the unconstructive attitude of the US side and said: "As you know, the negotiations have made no progress."

Kosygin reaffirmed the comprehensive support accorded by the Soviet Union to the Vietnamese people's struggle against US aggression.

## NIXON FACES WIDE PUBLIC OUTCRY AT HOME

THE reckless decision of US President Nixon to send American troops for an overt armed aggression against Cambodia and renew bombing against mass populated areas of North Viet Nam has set off a flurry of public outcries in the United States.

Americans of all walks of life, including the toughest supporters of Nixon so far in the Senate and House of Representatives, have denounced the moves as serious threats to peace likely to lead to an indefinite prolongation of American military involvement in South-East Asia.

In the hours immediately after Nixon's televised speech on April 30 on the sending of US forces to Cambodia the Senate Foreign Relations Committee issued a warning on "the danger of seeing the Vietnam conflict taking in the whole of Indochina." A unanimous statement issued by the Committee affirmed that the situation in Cambodia was a "grave development."

The Committee on May 1st asked for a meeting with President Nixon to discuss the Cambodian issue. In a report the Committee said, "In the Committee's view... the war in Indochina has been conducted from its outset without constitutional authorization. The commitment of at least 8,000 American soldiers to fight in Cambodia... evidence a co-victim by the executive that it is at every turn to ignore the national commitment's resolution and to take over both the war and treaty powers

of Congress." The Committee report noted that President Nixon, in announcing American troops were entering Cambodia, "did not think it necessary to explain what he believed to be the legal ground on which he was acting other than to refer to his powers as commander-in-chief of the armed forces."

Senator William Fulbright, Democratic Chairman of the Committee, described the despatch of American troops to Cambodia as a "major escalation of the war" there. He said: "It is fully consistent with the policy we (the US administration) have been following for five years... It is not consistent with any plan for ending the war."

Senator McGovern, a potential candidate for the presidency in 1972, called Nixon's Indochina moves "barbaric and senseless." "The recent invasion of Cambodia and resumption of bombing of North Viet Nam are only the latest in a long series of actions that mean more slaughter and destruction," he said.

Senate Democratic leader Mike Mansfield began Senate debates on the Cambodian invasion by branding it an "ill advised adventure that could escalate the conflict into a general Indochinese war."

Senator Edmund S. Muskie, Democratic - Maine, said he was "terribly disturbed and concerned" by the invasion. "The United States is in a very serious position," he said.

(Continued page 11)

its bellicose policy of aggression.

The Soviet Union has always respected and will continue to respect the neutrality and independence of Cambodia, as well as her sovereignty, territorial integrity and frontiers. This is the reason why we forcefully condemn US intervention in Cambodia.

Whatever pretext may be advanced to justify such an intervention, it is evident that the cynical contempt for the inalienable right of the Indochinese peoples to the masters of their countries and the gross American dictate remain the basis of the US foreign policy while plots and military intervention and aggression are the means to realize it.

It is certain that the expansion of US aggression in South-East Asia will meet with more resolute and more effective response from the countries victims of the imperialist attacks and from all those who have peace and the interest of peace and the freedom of the peoples at heart. In addition to the heavy responsibility for its war against the Vietnamese people, the US must also shoulder its responsibility for the aggression perpetrated against the Cambodian people. Of course, the Soviet Government will draw appropriate conclusions for its policy in view of this line of action adopted by the US in South-East Asia.

## LAO PATRIOTS CAPTURE ATTOPEU TOWN

THE Lao patriotic armed forces and people on April 28 overran the enemy positions in Attopeu and captured the town, reported KPL which quoted sources of the Vietnamese administration as saying that 93 rightist troops were killed and 93 others were wounded.

The Lao patriots assaulted an artillery site, the airfield, the military headquarters and several bar-

racks of the enemy. Under the impact of the powerful assaults, the enemy in the town fled in panic.

Attopeu town, situated at the foot of the fertile Boloven plateau in Lower Laos, had been a staging area for the US-fostered bandits and commandos to launch harassing attacks against the liberated area in Attopeu and other provinces.

## U.S. AGGRESSION AGAINST CAMBODIA CONDEMNED

In a statement issued on May 3, the Central Committee of the Lao Patriotic Front energetically condemned the open armed intervention of the US imperialists

against Cambodia and voiced full support for the struggle of the Khmer people to defend their independence and territorial integrity.

## News in Brief

## NIXON FACES...

(Continued from page 10)

about the President's decision. He said that Nixon's speech on April 30 and the one ten days before in which he said just peace was in sight were "irreconcilable." "The President has decided to seek a military method of ending this war rather than a negotiated method."

Leo Metcalf, Democratic - Montana, said: "He (Nixon) has brought this war. This is not only the Nixon war, but it's a bigger war than we've ever had."

"Ghastly," exclaimed Senator Charles E. Goodell, Republican - New York. "Unbelievable," commented O. Hatfield, Republican - Oregon. "A tragic mistake," remarked William D. Proxmire, Democratic - Wisconsin.

Senator Ed. M. Kennedy said Nixon has "fallen a prey to the same illusions that drove another from office - victory in Southeast Asia." "Today," he said, "we are in error. Men will die, and we will reap the harvest of this error with dissent and turmoil. The United States is facing a very dark future because the president's policies can do nothing but an increased level of violence and expansion of the war, Nixon's policies will bring sorrow, death and more air strikes."

Senator Aiken: "It (the Nixon move) may well lengthen the conflict, widen it into an Indochinese war, increase US costs of billions and increase US casualties..."

The Senate of Massachusetts passed a resolution calling for a referendum on the Cambodian issue while a motion was enforced by the Senate of Hawaii to urge for cessation of US military intervention in Cambodia.

THE Nixon decision drew violent outbursts from the students who almost immediately after

invaded and occupied the national territory, in defiance of all the international laws and in order to protect our people.

"That the foreign policy of Cambodia is and will remain that of national independence, peace, neutrality and non-alignment, of solidarity and friendship with all the peace and justice-loving peoples and governments."

"In this spirit, the new Royal Government of National Union under the leadership of the PRUNK presents its unqualified respect for all the international treaties, accords and conventions which Cambodia had signed before March 18, 1970."

"Considering moreover that the Cambodian people are engaged in the struggle for the recovery of its sacred rights to independence and national sovereignty, against oppression by the American imperialists and their lackeys of Phnom Penh, and that this struggle is that of the Indochinese peoples, victims of American imperialism, and certain of the justice of the struggle being waged against the open aggression and massive armed forces of the American imperialists, and of final victory, the Government of National Union under the leadership of the PRUNK expresses encouragements, militant sympathy and fraternal support, as from today, from all the

peoples and governments in the world who uphold independence, peace and justice.

"This encouragement, sympathy and support will find expression in the recognition of our government as the sole legal and legitimate government of Cambodia by more and more friendly peoples and governments."

"For their part, the Khmer people, under the leadership of the PRUNK and its President Sihanouk Norodom Sihanouk, are ready to make all sacrifices to achieve final victory over the American imperialism and their lackeys, the Lon Nol - Sirik Matak clique, for the present struggle determines the liberty and dignity of our future generations and it is fundamental for the independence, liberty and progress of the Indochinese peoples and the peoples of the world."

"Long live the FUNK!"

"Long live Sihanouk Norodom Sihanouk, Head of State and President of the FUNK!"

"The Khmer people will win!"

THE Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia was promptly granted diplomatic recognition by the Government of the United States and the RSNV Provisional Revolutionary Government as the "sole legal and legitimate government of Cambodia."

caused a grave constitutional crisis by an illegal act of war. It called for immediate withdrawal of all American troops from Southeast Asia and asked Congress not to approve any more funds for the war.

Another assault on US policy in Southeast Asia came from John Kenneth Galbraith, a Harvard economist, said, former US Ambassador to India. In a prepared speech, Galbraith said control of the US military establishment was the paramount issue of the nation.

He said that there were few or no vocal defenders of the war in Viet Nam and that it drew its support from the military bureaucracy. "The simple truth is that we are fighting the war not for the national interest but for the military interest," he said.

Linus Pauling, a Nobel prize winner, branded as "idiotic" the American intrusion in Cambodia.

Dr. Benjamin Spock, at a press conference organized by the New Mobilisation Committee, launched an appeal in favour of a movement against the government policy. He announced plans for a mass demonstration on May 9 in front of the White House with the slogan: "Withdraw immediately all US troops from South-East Asia."

THE wave of indignation has also reached Americans abroad. According to AP, a group of Americans living in Manila on May 2 sharply denounced the decision of President Nixon to send US troops into Cambodia. The group, called "Americans against US Policy in Viet Nam," said, "We condemn this decision. Sihanouk, the president and announce that he does not represent us."

## TO THE READER

We are aware that there is much room for improvement in the wording of our paper. We apologize for this shortcoming and highly appreciate all your suggestions as they will help us serve you more efficiently in future.

## SOVIET GOVERNMENT'S STATEMENT...

(Continued from page 9)

The policy of neutrality of Cambodia and her peaceful line which she has pursued until recently was not to the liking of the US. The direct policy of the US. The American invasion of Cambodia has brought out still more evidently the link existing between the subversive actions of the services concerned of the US and the coup d'etat in Phnom Penh which has discarded from power the legal Head of State, Prince Norodom Sihanouk. These services and their agents in Cambodia have been doing their best to arouse bad blood between the Khmer and Vietnamese peoples. They have carried out a bloody massacre of Vietnamese residents in Cambodia, set up concentration camps where they brutally killed peaceful inhabitants of the country. They resorted to every method to make Asians fight one another. Fratricidal wars have been imposed on the countries of "Vietnamization" of the war advocated by the US President provides an example. Evidently, every government which allows the US to turn it into an accomplice of its policy of aggression must be condemned as the enemy of the peoples.

One may ask who has allowed the

US to arrogate to itself the right to decide what is good or bad for the other peoples. For what reason is the US assuming the role which cannot be described otherwise than that of an international gendarme? Nobody has accorded it such a right. The US has no and has not any ground to do so.

US armed intervention in Cambodia has stirred up the indignation of all peace-loving forces in the world. The Soviet Government holds that the extension of US aggression in Indochina has rendered still more imperative the necessity of the union and a still greater cohesion of all the socialist, anti-imperialist and peace-loving forces in the struggle against aggression.

In this situation, all states which have peace and liberty of the peoples at heart, are called upon to show a high sense of responsibility with regard to the ulterior development of the events and their will to contribute to the fight against the aggressor.

The invasion by American troops in Cambodia also risks to bring about an aggravation of the world situation. In this light, the question is how one should understand the repeated statements of the President

of the US in favour of passing from an era of confrontation to an era of negotiation? Can one speak seriously of the desire for fruitful negotiations to solve mature international problems, while the US is flouting the 1954 and 1962 Geneva Agreements to which it was a signatory and while it is undertaking new acts to sabotage the foundations of international security?

One may question the worth of the international agreements to which the United States has been a party or intends to adhere if it implicitly rejects the commitments it has taken.

One cannot fail to see that the actual deeds of Nixon in the matter of foreign policy are at complete variance with the statements and assurances he has made on many occasions before he took office as well as when he was already in the White House. He had promised to the American people and world public opinion that he would do everything to end the war in Viet Nam, bring US troops home and save their lives. Facts have proved that all these assurances are only empty talks, because in fact the US government has only intensified

## MILITARY OPERATIONS

### INITIAL RESULTS OF PLAF ACTIONS FROM APRIL 1 TO 20, 1970

- ★ 50,000 Enemy Troops (20,000 GIs) Put out of Action.
- ★ 1,200 Military Vehicles (800 Tanks and Armoured Cars) Destroyed.
- ★ 500 Planes and Helicopters Downed or Destroyed.

### ENEMY LOSSES AT DAK SIENG (148km SOUTH-SOUTHEAST OF DA NANG) IN 26 DAYS (APRIL 1-26)

- ★ 2,497 Casualties (35 US Advisers and 4 Puppet Battalion Commanders).
- ★ 151 Prisoners.
- ★ 60 Aircraft Downed and 16 Destroyed.
- ★ 32 Cannons and Heavy Mortars Knocked out of Commission

*Carried pick-a-back, these PLAF guns are to spring surprise on the enemy*



#### Saigon in Political Effervescence

## THIEU-KY-KHIEM CLIQUE UNDER FIRE FROM ALL QUARTERS

In Saigon, the students stepped up their struggle against the fascist dictatorial regime. The "Supreme Court" had to consider the legality of the action brought by Nguyen Van Thieu against the students. On April 21, it came to the conclusion that the "commission" writing by torture upon which to indict the students arranged before the military court, was not valid and on April 29, it stated that law suit was a breach of the constitution.

The Thieu - Ky - Khiem clique was nonplussed by the statement made to pressmen by the students "questioned" by the police. UPI wrote on April 29: "Que Huong, a teacher, one of the four girls among 21 persons brought to trial before the military court, said she and the other three girls were tortured with electric shocks in their cars. Two had lighted cigarettes placed against their sex organs. Mrs. Huong said her husband was forced to watch her tortured and then she was forced to watch as her husband was beaten."

"Another witness, Luu Hoang Thao, who was carried into the court room by four other students, said he was beaten on the knees for seven days and can barely walk. Thao said he had electric shocks applied to his ears and genitals. At one point, police thought he was dead and drove him

out along the Bien Hoa highway, prepared to dump him in a ditch. He was still alive. Thao said the police also poured salt water down his throat and then jumped on his stomach to make sure he vomited blood."

The students also actively took part in a vast protest movement against the massacre by the Lon Nol-Matak clique of Vietnamese residents in Cambodia. Thieu was quick to quell it. The police used bludgeons and tear grenades to disperse the crowd and even the ceremony in memory of the victims of the massacre by the Phnom Penh fascists. Two newspapers were closed down: *The Sang* (Morning News) which wrote in its April 18 issue that "the indifference of the government induces people to believe that it is ready to sacrifice the Vietnamese in Cambodia for the sake of anti-communism," and the *Dong Nai* which quoted on April 27 "Senator" Phan Nam Sach as asserting that the Saigon administration had supplied Phnom Penh with arms and ammunition to slaughter the Vietnamese residents.

On April 21, the crowd, exasperated by the hateful attitude of the Thieu-Ky-Khieu clique, stormed the offices of the former Cambodian Embassy in Saigon. About one hundred youths, mostly students and school teachers, occupied it and set the ground against the police

which besieged it to deny them all food supply. However in the twelve days' siege, foodstuffs managed to pass through the police siege. It was not until May 3 that the students evacuated the building after a violent clash in which tear gas was used by the police. About sixty students were marched away.

Meanwhile, serious incidents occurred between the generals' men and Saigon Buddhists. The house ruffian Thich Tam Chan — who is to the present dictators what was Mgr. Ngo Dinh Thuc to tyrant Ngo Dinh Diem — has for years illegally occupied the *Institute for the Valorization of Buddhist Faith*. On May 3 a crowd composed of bonzes, Buddhist youths and chiefly students, succeeded in breaking through the police cordon set around the establishment and occupying it again. On May 5, one hour after the police assault against the students picketing the Cambodian Embassy, about one hundred puppet soldiers armed with M. 16 automatic carbines, under the command of a bonze, Thich Tam Gue, in the uniform of a colonel chaplain, stormed the institute and opened up on the defenders, killing ten and injuring over one hundred. Covering this massacre, the Western press pointed out that Thieu's police had shown a biased neutrality by giving the murders a free hand.

Tension was at its height. On May 5, the puppet administration decided to close

down all schools and faculties till further notice. The following day, the curfew was set earlier and extended by 2 hours and a circular was issued banning all strikes, demonstrations and meetings. However, on May 7, the Saigonese students continued to demonstrate in

the streets under the very nose of the police. UPI remarked on May 7 that the demonstration had been quite a success.

In Saigon, the ground is burning more and more intolerably under the feet of the Thieu-Ky-Khieu clique and their American bosses.

#### Scanning the Saigon Press

## The Puppet Administration and Disabled Servicemen

On March 8, 1970 the puppet authorities pulled down houses in Doan Thi Diem Street, Saigon, and evicted many families, including those of war invalids. This arbitrary action resulted in a clash. Earlier families of disabled soldiers in the 4th and 6th town districts had been victims of the same measure after their discharge from hospital.

What about those still under treatment? In its March 9, 1970 issue, the Saigon paper *Hon Binh* (Peace) carried a reportage on this subject, an excerpt of which reads as follows:

"I met at Phan Thiet a raw recruit who had a right leg and left arm amputated, three fingers missing in his right hand, a scarred and blotchy face and was blind in his right eye. At my question: 'Has any one come to see you?' he hung down his head, looked at his remaining leg and shook his head. From a blood-stained bed nearby, a legless soldier addressed me: 'Are they having a merry *Tet* outside?' Not waiting for my answer, he continued, 'It is since long that we have not had a decent *Tet*.' 'Two different worlds

exist within and without the hospital. Separated by a high wall, inside of the hospital are the blood and tears of soldiers just back from the front, and outside a lot of merry-making and fine dresses (of the authorities), 1,000 war invalids, 300 cripples, 200 maimed soldiers, 200 mental patients did not know anything about *Tet*. One could see blood-soaked beds, yellow faces near pools of blood and swarms of mosquitoes. The wards were deep in filth. I asked a patient how often they received clean clothes and was told this happened once a few months or on the occasion of a visit of some delegation. Able-bodied soldiers would get each a new change of clothes and the disabled ones were left in the lurch."

"I wonder why the soldiers who have escaped death at the front are treated so harshly in hospitals. Have our statesmen and big wage-earners paid them a visit and heard their complaints. Go, go to death, my boys, and I would you will silently be evacuated to hospital and then to the cemetery. All the shame and sufferings are on you, forgotten people, in your sick-beds!"